

THE TWILIGHT ZONE, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS GEORGE BUSH'S AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. MCKINNEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I am worried about what is happening to our great country today. I fear that many of us cannot see what is happening here. Maybe we are too close. Maybe there are even people who do not want us to see; but our friends and allies in Europe and elsewhere are reporting that they are seeing disturbing developments in our country, like the fading of our fundamental constitutional rights, the creation of a war machine that threatens world peace, the spending of a generation of Americans on this war on terrorism, and even an attack on truth in government by forming the Office of Strategic Influence to lie to us and to the rest of the world. The President even asked Hollywood to make these developments palatable to the American people.

With this as a backdrop, I would just like to ask that Members close their eyes and imagine being drawn deeper and deeper into black space. If Members keep their eyes closed and if they close them good and tight, they will be able to imagine themselves going faster and faster and deeper and deeper into a black unknown.

All of a sudden we see a bright light at a distance far away, but faster and faster and closer and closer it becomes brighter and brighter; and in one instant, with one grand motion, we can cross from the darkness into the light. But just before we make the crossing, a huge booming voice coming from nowhere, and at the same time coming from everywhere, booms all around us: You unlock this door with the key of understanding. Beyond it is another dimension, a dimension of hearing that which is not spoken, a dimension of seeing that which is invisible, a dimension of reading that which is not written.

We are moving into a land of both shadow and substance, of things and ideas. Welcome. We just crossed over into the Twilight Zone, otherwise known as George Bush's America. For it is here and only here that the White House could receive warning after warning of massive attacks that were going to take place on American soil, the attack happens, and both the President and the Vice President, in separate phone calls to TOM DASCHLE, ask that Congress not investigate what happened and why. That could only happen in the Twilight Zone.

Or that an administration battling worldwide perception, as well as a domestic one having come to power in circumstances like Zambia's or Kenya's, could form a shadow government inside the selected government, with no one in the real government knowing about the shadow government except the shadow leaders in it. That could only happen in the Twilight Zone.

Or that this President could propose the biggest hike in defense spending, where his dad stands to make a mint, as long as increased spending does not get lost wherever the \$2.3 trillion is that the Pentagon has already lost, and the Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld, says we can afford it. That could only happen in the Twilight Zone.

Or that Arthur Andersen, who kept Enron's books, could still have contracts to keep the books over at FBI, DOJ, and the Pentagon. That could only happen in the Twilight Zone.

Wake up, America. We are not only in the Twilight Zone, we have crossed the threshold into George Bush's America.

CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER STANLEY HARRIMAN

(Mr. MCINTYRE asked and was given permission to address the House for 5 minutes and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my deepest condolences to the family and friends of Chief Warrant Officer Stanley Harriman of the Third Special Forces Group of the United States Army who gave his life in the service of our country.

I join with his family and friends in paying tribute to him for the ultimate sacrifice that he has made on behalf of our Nation, and my prayers are with his family.

Stanley Harriman was a decorated soldier who willfully and enthusiastically participated in Operation Enduring Freedom. Among his many awards and decorations were two Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, three Army Achievement Medals, the Valorous Unit Award, Army Superior Unit Award, two Army Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, three Southwest Asia Service Medals, the Humanitarian Service Medal, three Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Medals, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Master Parachutist Badge, and the Special Forces Tab. Now, because of his heroic actions in recent days, he will also receive the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

This tragedy should remind us that our freedom and our security are neither free nor secure; they are repeatedly earned and protected by our men and women in uniform. They risk their lives so freedom may survive. Chief Warrant Officer Harriman's courage in the face of danger reflects his character, a character born of his personal commitment to his Lord as a committed Christian and to his family as a committed husband, father, brother, and son.

We owe Chief Warrant Officer Stanley Harriman a tremendous debt of

gratitude. His courage, character, and commitment to freedom are an example to all of us. It is important that we not only remember Stanley as an excellent and dedicated soldier and Christian family man, but also as the American hero that he is.

May God bless him and his family and those who have served with him. May God bless our great country. We indeed are a better Nation because of men like Stanley Harriman and those who serve with him in our Nation's Armed Forces.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SOCIAL SECURITY, THE SHADOW GOVERNMENT, AND THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. MCINNIS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, there are a number of different issues that I would like to address this evening; but I find myself, having listened to the last hour of comments, in need of a little rebuttal to some of these comments, especially those comments that were directed to us by the minority leader, which of course went un rebutted.

First of all, the minority leader talks about some kind of secret Republican plan for Social Security. Where does he get that? What gives him the liberty to make those kinds of remarks? That speech that the minority leader gave, in my opinion, was one of the most partisan speeches I have heard on this floor.

I challenge the minority leader to show me one Republican or show me one Democrat on the House floor, one in office in either our House or at any elected level, that is against Social Security. Show me one elected official in this country that wants to devastate Social Security. Show me one Congressman, Mr. Minority Leader, that meets the standards that he put out there: because they are Republican, they must be against Social Security.

What really justifies some of those remarks, I would guess, is the fact that it is an election year, and now is the time to begin to position oneself as the savior of Social Security. The minority leader talks about, we should not talk about numbers, we should talk about values. He is right, the minority leader, we should talk about values. Part of those values are the preservation of that system.

All of us on this floor, Republicans and Democrats, want to preserve the